Dear Jennifer:

Thank you for your time yesterday. Below is the link to Region 9's organization of superfund site info, as I'm sure you're aware.

http://www.epa.gov/region9/superfund/superfundsites.html

As I opined to you yesterday, Region 9's presentation of this material is and for years has been top notch, while Region 6's web offering fall far short by comparison. I have not studied other regions in this regard.

I have attached screen shots of both Region 9's and Region 6's top-level pages, superfund pages and select other pages for comparison.

R9's homepage presents "Key Issues" as:

- Agriculture
- Air Quality
- Cleanup Sites
- Climate Change
- Compliance and Enforcement
- Environmental Justice
- Pacific Islands
- Tribes
- Watershed Priorities
- U.S.-Mexico Border

In my opinion, R9's "key issues" are truly the relevant, top-level subject headers; e.g. I can click on "Cleanup Sites" (http://www.epa.gov/region9/cleanup/) and get to the a page (shot attached) with the following comprehensive R9-specific directory, including the link to Superfund:

Brownfields and Redevelopment
Redevelopment of old industrial areas
- Pilot Projects
- Region 9 Action Agenda
- Showcase Communities
Contaminated Site Cleanup
Sites we are working to clean up
- RCRA Corrective Action
- Underground Storage Tanks
- Brownfields
- Superfund Sites
- Cleanup Technology Links
- Site Evaluation and Cleanup Goals (PRGs)
Emergencies & Spills

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Dealing with releases of oil and chemicals
- Oil Program
- Emergency Prevention and Preparedness

Superfund

EPA's program for toxic site cleanup
- Site Overview Documents
- Site Evaluation and Cleanup Goals (PRGs)

By contrast, Region 6's homepage presents "Key Issues" as follows:

- Enforcement and Compliance
- Illinois River Watershed
- Oklahoma Clean Air Plan
- Texas Air Permitting
- Waste Isolation Pilot Plant (WIPP)
- Camp Minden

The only path I can find from the R6 homepage to anything about Superfund is under the "Learn the Issues" drop-down national navigation bar, which has a "Land and Cleanup" option that takes the user to the national "Basic Information" page and out of the Region 6-specific information. From there, if I click through on the Region 6 link, I get to a page headed "EPA's Region 6 Office" with the sub-head "About Superfund" containing only the most general superfund information. A side box headed "Regional Information" does contain links to "Site Summaries" organized by state, which are scanty, static pdf files ranging from 2 to 9 pages in length.

Region 9, again by comparison, has "Site Overviews" linked from their "Pacific Southwest, Region 9: Superfund" comprehensive and R9-specific page at http://yosemite.epa.gov/r9/sfund/r9sfdocw.nsf/vwsoalphabetic?openview

As contrasted with the scanty "Site Summaries" pdf documents offered by R6 for its 139 sites by my count, the R9 "Site Overviews" contain the following links to complete and robust information for each of R9's 155 superfund sites by my count (screen shot of the first R9 site's "Site Overview" (Advanced Micro Devices) attached for example):

- Description and History
- Contaminants and Risks
- Who is Involved
- Investigation and Cleanup Activities
- Cleanup Results to Date
- Potentially Responsible Parties
- Documents and Reports
- Community Involvement
- Public Information Repositories
- Additional Links
- Contacts
- Progress Profile (EPA Headquarters)

Region 6 has nothing like the breadth and depth of information offered by Region 9 for superfund sites, although Region 9 has responsibility for more sites than Region 6. Region 6 just has the scanty pdf files of between 2-9 pages of static information.

[The R9 "Progress Profile (EPA Headquarters)" link leads to an error page (attached) unlike the R6 "Progress Profile" pages (searchable in Google but linked from nowhere on the site that I

R9 "Progress Profile" pages (searchable in Google but linked from nowhere on the site that I can find) which contain the "frozen data" red-letter language related to SEMS, as we discussed.]
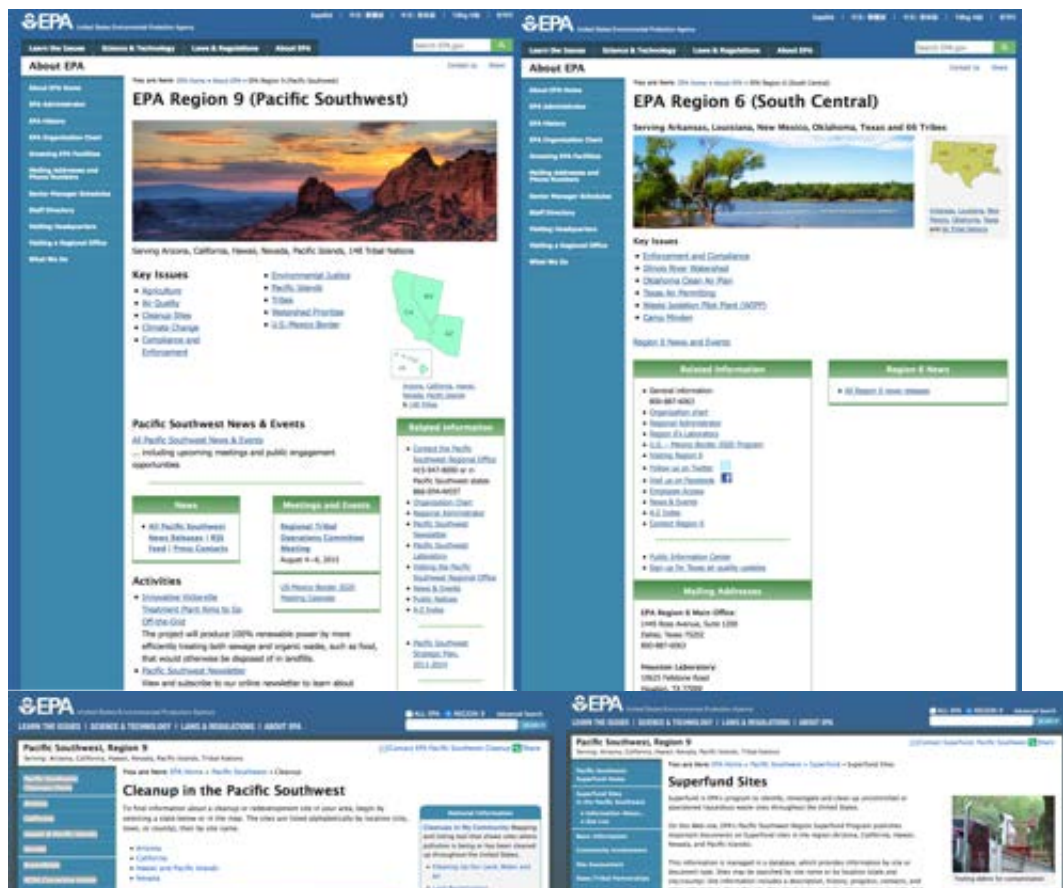
Quite apart from the "Progress Profile" SEMS project issues we discussed, I feel all Regions within EPA should have a Superfund home page and "Site Overviews" that are on a par with Region 9's. The taxpaying American public deserve such complete and consistent information offerings across the board on this subject of vital public interest.

As I mentioned and have documented in years past with earlier emails to EPA staff before you so kindly contacted me, I feel Region 9 should be the model for the organization and presentation of public information on the web, from the topmost level (http://www2.epa.gov/aboutepa/epa-region-9-pacific-southwest) to the furthest drill-down. Region 9 is exemplary in this regard, and I don't hold this opinion just because I live in California.

I hope you will pass along my recommendation so that EPA systemwide will adopt Region 9's best practices for website construction, organization, maintenance and robustness of content, which I strongly believe would be in the public's best interest across the country. Please call me if we could work on this together some more, including stepping through the pages together on the phone so I could point out usability issues I have spotted and commented upon for years now.

Sincerely,

Curt Grisham

EPA

Pacific Southwest, Region 9 Superfund

Site Overviews

Advanced Micro Devices, Inc.

About Superfund

United States EPA Server

The requested object was not found on this server.

arkwood-ar-1 copy.pdf

If you have not visited from an existing page, please check for typographical errors in the URL you entered.

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